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Application 10/733,534
Preliminary amendment dated September 15, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 4, 14, 15, 22, 29 – 31, and 35 have been amended to more clearly point out and define the claimed invention and to correct some minor typographical errors.

Two additional analytical techniques were added to claim 4: electron microscopy and mass spectroscopy. Support for inclusion of these techniques can be found for example on page 47, lines 7 – 12.

Claims 38 – 40 were newly added. Support for claims 38 – 40 can be found in the specification of page 13 lines 7 - 18, page 14 lines 2 - 16, and page 60 lines 20 – 24.

The amendments are fully supported by the application as filed and do not introduce new matter. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 12 and 13 were cancelled.

Since two claims were cancelled and three claims were newly added, the commissioner is authorized to deduct \$25 from Deposit Account No. 50-2852 for the additional claim. If an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-2852.

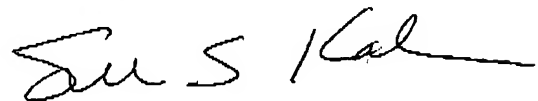
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408)267-7214.

Phynexus, Inc.
IP Dept.
3670 Charter Park Drive, Suite A
San Jose, CA 95136

skalman@phynexus.com
(408)267-7214 phone
(408)267-7346 FAX

Respectfully submitted,



Sue S. Kalman
Reg. No. 54,727